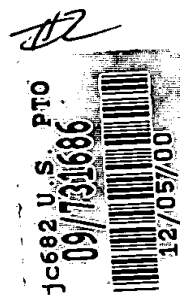


EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EL473792173US



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 17616-845

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application)	<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u>
)	
Inventor(s): Christopher D. Casscells et al.)	
)	Art Unit: Unknown
Application No.: Unassigned)	
)	Examiner: Unknown
Filed: Herewith)	
)	
Title: ELECTROCAUTERIZING TOOL FOR)	
ORTHOPEDIC SHAVE DEVICES)	
)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and 1.98(d)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and U.S. and foreign patent, except for pending U.S. applications, was submitted in copending application Serial No. 09/066,615, filed April 24, 1998, which is the parent of the present application and is relied on for priority. In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), no additional copies of the cited references are submitted herewith. Should the Examiner require an additional copy of any of the cited references he/she is urged to contact the undersigned attorney of record via telephone.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

☒ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date

-- OR --

☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage

-- OR --

☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; or (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, then:

☐ a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; or

☐ a fee of \$240.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is completed below; and

B. a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d) requesting consideration of this statement is submitted herewith; and

C. a fee of \$130.00 as set forth in §1.17(i)(1) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☒ *Fee Authorization.* The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above-referenced fees of \$0.00 and charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-2415 (Docket No. 17616-845).

Respectfully submitted,

WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI

Dated: Dec 5, 2000

By: David J. Weitz
David J. Weitz, Reg. No. 38,362

650 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1505
(650)493-9300
Customer No. 021971